

The Scranton Tribune

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by the Tribune Publishing Company, at Fifty Cents a Week.

New York Office: 150 Nassau St., & S. VEREKLAIN, Sole Agent for Foreign Advertising.

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT SCRANTON, PA., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

TWELVE PAGES.

SCRANTON, DECEMBER 10, 1898.

The next mayor of Scranton should be a man who will make the police department hustle.

Army Problems.

The most disappointing feature of the recent report of the secretary of war was the absence of recommendation of changes in the organization of the regular army designed to remedy the defects and weaknesses disclosed during the war with Spain.

Bills for the reorganization of the army are already before congress. One was drafted by General Miles. The other is said to be the joint work of Secretary Alger and Representative Hull.

Perhaps they are waiting for the report of the president's special commission of investigation. It is to be hoped this report will get to the marrow of the difficulty, although we do not think it will.

Secretary Alger evidently intends that General Miles shall continue as general in name only.

The New South.

Some information is presented in the Baltimore Sun concerning the cotton-spinning industry of North Carolina which is highly interesting in itself and also highly suggestive of the industrial possibilities of a region which most Northerners rather flippantly dismiss from their minds as of little if any account.

In 1899 North Carolina was ninth in the list of cotton-spinning states in the South, but has now gone to second place, South Carolina leading, Georgia, the third state on the list, is over 200,000 spindles behind North Carolina. Only four other states—Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Connecticut—are ahead of North Carolina in number of spindles.

The wages of cotton mill operatives in North Carolina is much lower than in the New England states, and while the latter have enacted laws regulating the hours of the labor, all attempts to do so in North Carolina have failed.

The average daily wages paid to skilled men is \$1.07; unskilled, 68 cents; to skilled women, 63 cents; unskilled, 45 cents; children, 32 cents. The general average is 63 cents for all, which is said to be a gain of 1 cent over last year.

It is small wonder, in view of these facts, that New England's former firm grasp upon the textile industry is fast weakening and will soon be relaxed doubtless forever.

The costs on discharged and ignored cases in criminal court average in Luzerne county nearly \$54,000 a year; in

our own county, probably two-thirds as much. This is the tribute the people pay into the well-lined pockets of the shark-horsemanship of justice and his shark confederate, the mischief-making constable. It is highway robbery under sanction of law, but it is what will continue or increase until determined steps are taken for relief.

The city fathers, in their eagerness to popularize the bond ordinance, should go a step further and propose to deed to every affirmative voter a house and lot, permanently exempt from taxation.

Speaker Reed's Witticism.

An epigram is credited to Speaker Reed on the subject of immigration and quoted with great glee by the opponents of expansion. Certain Republican members of congress, as the story goes, had approached the Maine parliamentarian to learn if he would oblige by restricting immigration.

This does well as a witticism but as a criticism it is unfair. Nobody knows better than Mr. Reed that our government is not paying \$2 a head or any other sum for Filipinos. It is paying \$20,000,000 to Spain, nominally as reimbursement for pacific improvements made in the Philippines, but actually as a cheaper plan of getting her out of that archipelago than to go to war again, to disturb business again, upset commerce again, and run removed risks of getting into trouble with other European nations.

In our humble judgment, nine-tenths of those who are hurling hot criticisms at the president for his treatment of the Philippine problem do not know what they are talking about. They have set up a lot of imaginary targets and are knocking them down under the hallucination that this effects the president, when as a matter of fact he has gone no step further at any point than was dictated by necessity and is committed to nothing beyond that Spain must pull out.

What would Lord North think if he could arise from his grave and hear a member of the present British cabinet allude to the North American republic as the greatest of civilized states? For that matter, what would Washington, or Jefferson, or any of our Revolutionary fathers think? Verily, expansion has done this thing and it will go on.

Canal Difficulties.

The construction of the Nicaragua canal by the United States government will be beset with difficulties other than those of the engineering work involved. Before we can begin to scoop dirt and blast rock we shall first have to get over, under or around the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, which perpetually pledged us to permit England into partnership in any canal enterprises along the isthmus of Darien; and then next we shall have to make terms with Nicaragua, which already has two concessions outstanding.

The first of these, known as the Menou concession, was granted in April, 1887, and was not to be operative until \$2,000,000 had been actually invested. The Maritime Canal company, the present national organization which represents the remains of the various past efforts to combine canal-building in Nicaragua with security speculation at Washington, nine years ago got the Nicaragua government to admit that it had actually expended \$2,000,000, whereupon its concession became valid for a period of ten years, with privileges of renewal. This period expires Oct. 5, 1898. Since October, 1889, it is claimed by the president of Nicaragua that the Maritime Canal company has laid down and not lifted a plank nor yielded a shovel. All of the property at Greytown and vicinity has either been sold, stolen or rendered useless by decay. Under these circumstances President Zelaya, of Nicaragua, says he did not suppose the Maritime Canal company would have the nerve to ask for an extension, and therefore he gave a new concession to Messrs. Craig and Frye, representing British and American capitalists, to take effect on Oct. 5, 1898, when the Menou concession lapses.

As the case now stands, therefore, two concessions, one expiring and one pending, stand in the way of a direct grant of complete right of way to the United States government, nothing less than which should satisfy congress. But if we can reach a satisfactory basis of agreement with Great Britain respecting our right to take sole charge of this canal project, it is unlikely that we shall have much difficulty in coming to terms with the government of Nicaragua. This government is notoriously impetuous. A fair offer of purchase could not be refused, and after trying for three-quarters of a century to build a Nicaragua canal from New York city into the treasury at Washington could whistle.

The Spaniards, it seems, don't want Americans to pray for them. That only shows how much they need praying for.

General Wheeler's decision to resign his seat in congress in order that he may continue in active military service

will be welcome news in the army, where he is a prime favorite. Whether he broadcloth or regimentals, may good luck attend him!

As a result of changing suddenly from an average temperature of 100 degrees or more to a climate full of frosts and blizzards, General Garcia has pneumonia. May the brave old patriot soon get well.

There is still some question in the minds of many as to the manner in which the anti-ticket scalping bill will work entirely to the interest of the "dear public."

Yellow journals are missing opportunities in Philadelphia in not printing advance copies of Gideon Marsh's promised statement.

"Whom the gods wish to destroy," etc., Congressman Bailey now imagines that he is a bigger man than General Joe Wheeler.

According to newspaper reports, the streets of unsanitary Havana are now cleaner than those of Scranton.

It is not in the American character to be governed by pull-backs.

NEWS AND COMMENT

Some interesting details as to the customs and cost of living in Porto Rico are given in a San Juan letter to the "Chicago Record." Says this correspondent: "Most Americans in this island employ St. Thomas negroes to prepare their meals. These negroes speak English and are considered the best cooks on the island. Their wages are \$6 a month; maids and laundresses get \$3 to \$4 a month and board. You can employ a man for 30 cents a day, or a woman for 25 cents. It is customary for the cook to do the marketing, and if carefully looked after 20 cents a person for the day's provisions will give you very good things. As regards the price of ordinary groceries, you will find coal oil very high and other articles low, according to our ideas. Cocoanuts are 1 cent each, oranges from 1 cent a dozen to 1/2 cent apiece, bananas from 2 cents a dozen for small ones to 5 cents a dozen for large plantains. These are eaten raw, boiled, baked, fried in olive oil, or stewed in spiced wine. Practically they take the place of our Irish potato. Olive oil is undersold in nearly every thing instead of lard, though some lard is employed. Good olive oil can be had for 40 cents a quart, but the oil in ordinary use is much cheaper. The best coffee is 25 cents a pound; browned, lower grades can be bought as cheap as 8 cents. It is customary to brown coffee here almost to a burn, which makes a nearly black decoction with a bitter flavor. The sugar used here is not clarified; it has a medium brown color and is damp. No refined sugar is sold on the island. Sugar retail for 5 cents a pound. Milk is delivered at the door at 20 cents a quart. Among the green vegetables there are string beans, cabbage and asparagus, now in market. Sweet potatoes cost 1/2 cents a pound. Irish potatoes, 2 cents a pound, and the green vegetables are at very low prices. Rice, used as the principal diet by the natives, costs 5 cents a pound. The meat is poor. No skill is used in cutting all meats, and the principal diet by the natives, costs 5 cents a pound. The meat is poor. No skill is used in cutting all meats, and the principal diet by the natives, costs 5 cents a pound. The meat is poor. No skill is used in cutting all meats, and the principal diet by the natives, costs 5 cents a pound.

The real reason why Admiral Dewey recently bought a number of insurgent launches is now for the first time revealed in the Manila correspondence of the "Chicago Record." Not long before General Anderson used to take pleasure in his trip up the River Pasig, but was stopped at the insurgent lines and compelled to turn back. A day or two afterward the admiral sent the quarter-deck and he saw an insurgent launch steaming gaily along near his ship, with the insurgent flag flying. Then an idea of reciprocity came into his mind, he decided to seize all the insurgent launches. This was at once done, and eight beautiful craft were tied up in Cavite. When Aguinaldo heard of the capture he sent his private secretary to see the admiral and to find out what had been done to offend him. The admiral was very nice, and he gave the private secretary a heart-to-heart talk. He spoke of the insurgents' refusing to allow American army officers to go through their lines and he thought that he had taken them to the insurgent launches to go through his lines, so for that reason he had taken them and confiscated them, and "damned them." The next day a gentleman came through permitting American officers to go through the insurgent lines and up the river.

The state department has been informed by Consul General Holloway at St. Petersburg that the Russian government has placed a trial order through Consul Smith at Moscow with an American concern to equip 12 freight locomotives and 200 freight cars, to be delivered at a cost of \$25,000. This contract was obtained in competition with French, German and Russian companies. Another American concern is erecting a plant in Russia to make air brakes, and the consul general says that if the mechanical difficulties in the adaptation of the air brakes to Russian railroads can be overcome the entire freight rolling stock, 10,000 locomotives and 50,000 cars, will be equipped at once at a cost of \$50,000,000.

Among the numerous souvenir gifts which Admiral Dewey has received that which he prizes most highly is a beautifully bound and illuminated book which came to him from Milwaukee. Each page is decorated with an appropriate painting, the subjects bearing on something associated with the admiral or the battle of Manila bay. On the last page is a picture of the Olympia jockey hoisting, or "breaking out," at the main truck of the flagship the two-starred flag of the rear admiral. The final bit of text in the book expresses the hope that sometime the admiral may be in Milwaukee, and that he may take "breakfast" there.

One result of the agrarian antagonism in Germany to faceless meat has been an increase in the consumption of horse meat. A statistical table on this subject just published shows that during the fiscal year 1897-98 there were slaughtered 3,528 horses. Yet the agrarian element will neither admit the cheap and wholesome American beef nor will they consent to the admission of the product of the American horse meat canneries in the far northwest. This barring out of foreign meat may prove a good protective policy for the horse-meat industry in Germany, but it certainly is very severe in its imposition.

Congressman Crumpacker, of Indiana, was one of the two Republican members of the present session who voted against the annexation of Hawaii. The other one was not re-nominated. Crumpacker was, but before he had been on the stump six weeks he says he found the annexation was so great that he threw up his hands and laid down.

Marion, four years old, is a cunning little Mount Vernon girl, who attends the Methodist Sunday school. Not long since

the golden text of the week chanced to be the verse from Matthew, commencing "Let your light so shine." When Sunday came the little maid trotted off to Sunday school with her older brothers and sisters, and when the teacher asked her for the "golden text," she promptly said from her seat and convulsed the class by repeating gravely: "Keep your gas burnin'!"—Truth.

Senator Hoar's position. From the Wilkes-Barre Record. Senator Hoar's attack on the president, in the senate executive session, on Wednesday, is naturally attracting much attention, not because it was expected, but because many will concur in the logic of his argument, even while questioning his wisdom. Mr. Hoar denounced the action of the president in appointing senators as members of the Spanish-American peace commission. He argued to show the impropriety of choosing senators to negotiate a treaty when the treaty so negotiated must come before the senate for ratification. There are three senators on the peace commission and when their work comes before the senate these same senators will pass upon the treaty which they themselves negotiated. Mr. Hoar thinks this is all wrong. But, on the other hand, it might be urged that when so important a matter as the peace treaty with Spain comes before the senate it is not well that there should be somebody there to explain the many points that will naturally be raised, and who so well qualified to do that as Senators Frye, Davis and Gray, who assisted in negotiating and framing it? To hear certainly that the an unimpeachable time for raising such a question. According to his own reasoning it would be very improper for Mr. Hoar, and to hear certainly that the particular person to a federal office, because such appointees would subsequently come before Mr. Hoar, as a senator, for confirmation; and to hear certainly that Mr. Hoar has secured the appointment of many personal and political friends whom he afterwards assisted in confirming.

THE BIG INFIDEL.

From the Kansas City (Mo.) Times. He has made an immense fortune assailing with tongue and pen the Master who taught that charity was the greatest of all virtues. He has charged people a dollar a head to attend his lectures, and in rhythmic phrases the ennobling influences of brotherly love, of charity, of home, of neighborly kindness, and of contentment, to inform them that the Christ, who crystallized and symbolized them in all His life and teachings, is a myth, a fraud, and a creation of crafty hypocrites and priests of feeble mind. In all the time he has been making money in this way he has never endowed an asylum for the feeble-minded; never established a home for the sick, the aged, or the poor; and never, so far as is known, given of his bounty to assist in the cause of educating the ignorant. He is full of professions of benevolence and charity, but empty in performance. He is a showy, entertaining charlatan, who has chosen the most delicate and delicate subjects to make money in. He has passed into the chestnut case and reminiscent stage. His power to draw has waned into outright stands. When he shall have passed away like a rain-drop on the river, Christ and the doctrines He taught on the Mount will still be here to help the needy, enlightening and uplifting them with their saving grace, their simple, grandeur, and their ineffaceable truth.

SOLID GROUND FOR THE DEMOCRATS.

From the New York Times. No wise Democratic leader will oppose the taking of the Philippines without presenting a practical alternative. It is too late for anybody to say that we ought to "drop them and run." Moral and international obligations must be respected. We cannot consult self-interest alone. Besides, it may be far more interest to own the islands. That proposition has as yet been neither proved nor disproved. The Democrats will be on solid ground if they hold the administration to the highest standards of political business probity in its treatment of our island dependencies. A policy that has not only the material development of Porto Rico, the Philippines and Cuba, but the advancement and happiness of their people, will have the hearty support of the American people. No other will.

MONROE DOCTRINE NOT REPUDIATED.

Hochester Democrat and Chronicle. The persistence with which the French press charges that our negotiation of the Philippines means a repudiation of the Monroe doctrine gives rise to the suspicion that a wish is father to the thought. The Monroe doctrine, however, will find that the Monroe doctrine is still in force. We have invaded no sphere over which Europe has any claim. When we enter the sphere of European sovereignty it may be time to talk about treating the Monroe doctrine as obsolete. That will depend, however, upon circumstances.

THE BABY ON THE TRAIN.

Everybody restless. Grumbling at the dust. Pictures of diagraph. Axle hot and smoking. How the clock strikes four. How the faces lengthen. Sullen, wrinkled, sour. Sudden transformation. Passengers in smiles. Scowls and frowns have vanished. What is it beguiling? Grimy face and fingers. Mouth all over crumpled. Smoother, brighter, contrasting. Pink and clean-sucked thumbs. Round head nodding, bobbing. Blue eyes full of lustre. Wind-blown tresses shining golden in the sun. Everybody cheerful. No remarks profane. Magic change effected. Baby on the train. Indianapolis Journal.

ALL THIS WEEK

Everybody's bargain. A genuine \$3 Oxford Teacher's Bible for 95 cents

WOLF & WENZEL, 240 Adams Ave., Opp. Court House.

Practical Tanners and Plumbers, Sole Agents for Richardson-Boynton's Furnaces and Ranges.

GOLDSMITH'S G. B. BAZAAR.

All Ready For Christmas

The great stocks of holiday goods are now open and on sale. Everything that we have to offer will be found in profuse variety and at prices which will set our competitors to thinking.

All Holiday Goods on Main Floor. Free

To every purchaser. A handsomely illustrated booklet, something that will please the little ones.

Store open evenings until Christmas.



ALWAYS BUSY 1898. Fall Exhibit, 1898. HILL & CONNELL'S Furniture. No such magnificent display of furniture has ever been shown in Scranton as that now presented in our Fall exhibit. Nowhere can equal choice or equal values in Furniture be found. Latest designs in Bedroom, Parlor, Library, Dining room and Hall Furniture. Furniture to suit every taste and price to suit every purse, with the satisfaction of knowing that whatever may be selected will be the very best in the market for the money. Inspection of our stock and prices solicited.

Christmas Is Coming So Is Santa Claus. His little friends, and big ones too, will be happy in our shoes. Lewis, Reilly & Davies, 114 AND 116 WYOMING AVENUE.

When You Are Out looking around for your Christmas Gifts . . . remember our stock of Fine China, Cut Glass, Bric a Brac, Dinner, Tea, and Toilet Sets.

THE CLEMONS, FERBER, O'MALLEY CO. 422 Lackawanna Avenue. Holiday Suggestions. When selecting Xmas gifts it is always wise to choose that will be useful. Chafing Dishes, Coffee Pots, Five O'clock Teas, Baking, Dishes.

FOOTE & SHEAR CO. 119 WASHINGTON AVE. WOLF & WENZEL, 240 Adams Ave., Opp. Court House. Practical Tanners and Plumbers, Sole Agents for Richardson-Boynton's Furnaces and Ranges.

1898. Fall Exhibit, 1898. HILL & CONNELL'S Furniture. No such magnificent display of furniture has ever been shown in Scranton as that now presented in our Fall exhibit. Nowhere can equal choice or equal values in Furniture be found. Latest designs in Bedroom, Parlor, Library, Dining room and Hall Furniture. Furniture to suit every taste and price to suit every purse, with the satisfaction of knowing that whatever may be selected will be the very best in the market for the money. Inspection of our stock and prices solicited.

Hill & Connell At 121 North Washington Avenue. Scranton, Pa.

OXFORD BIBLES. Teacher's Edition. Finely bound, large print, for 90 cents, \$1.25 and \$1.49. Indexed, \$1.75.

Reynolds Bros STATIONERS AND ENGRAVERS. THE HUNT & CONNELL CO. 510 and 512 LACKAWANNA AVENUE.

HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming District. Heating, Plumbing, Gas Fitting, Electric Light Wiring, Gas and Electric Fixtures, Builders Hardware. DUPONT'S POWDER. Mining, Blasting, Sporting, Smokeseed and the Repasson Chemical Company's HIGH EXPLOSIVES. Betsy Fuse, Caps and Exploders. Room 101 Canal Building, Scranton.

FINLEY'S One Hundred Pieces

Yard-Wide Percales. Best Goods Made. Absolutely Fast Colors.

We have now open an unusually handsome line of these Goods for

HOLIDAY GIFTS.

Also an elegant line of French Organdies For Evening Dresses.

CALENDARS, BOOKLETS and LEATHER GOODS. Finest assortment.

DUPONT'S POWDER. Mining, Blasting, Sporting, Smokeseed and the Repasson Chemical Company's HIGH EXPLOSIVES. Betsy Fuse, Caps and Exploders. Room 101 Canal Building, Scranton. AGENCIES: THOMAS, FORD, JOHN B. SMITH & SONS, W. E. MULLIGAN, Pileus Plymouths Wilkes-Barre